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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Burma/Myanmar

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SUBJECT Recent Developments Among the Kachins

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1. The two large Kachin tribes on the China side of the border are the Atzis and the Marus. Both groups turn out excellent fighting troops, and the Atzis are considered the best fighters of all the Kachin tribes. The Chinese Communists have been assiduously attempting to cultivate both groups, but have not yet met with much success. The Chinese have so far been successful in recruiting only about 500 Kachins because the Kachin elders have been opposed to letting young Kachins join either the Communist or the anti-Communist guerrilla forces. Most of the 500 Kachins recruited by the Chinese Communists have been split up, some going into the police and others into different Chinese army units.

2. There is one company of Kachin soldiers stationed near Paoshan under a Chinese Communist captain. NAW SENG is reported to be in either Paoshan or Kunming, and is reported to have only about 40 of his original Kachin soldiers with him. The Kachin company near Paoshan may be under NAW SENG since about 200 of the 500 Kachins recruited on the China side of the border are said to be assigned to him.

3. The Chinese Communists do not trust either NAW SENG or any of the Kachins they have recruited. These Kachins are armed with only very light weapons.

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5. The Kachin State Government has been making effective anti-Communist propaganda out of the Chinese Communist attempt to outlaw the use of Bibles in the Kachin language in certain areas on the China side of the border.
6. One insidious piece of Chinese Communist propaganda spread in the Kachin State concerns the ECA Bhamo VD Health Team, which it claims is drawing blood from the Kachins for the American Army in Korea which is suffering greatly due to losses of blood inflicted by the Chinese Communist Army. The Kachin Government has counteracted this propaganda by demonstrating to Kachin headmen exactly what happens to the blood taken in Wasserman tests.
7. Several months ago the Communists were making progress in cultivating the Kachin youth in the Bhamo area. The Communist-controlled Kachin State Youth Organization had obtained about 200 members and was organizing a wide variety of Communist activities for Bhamo students. The Kachin Government has counteracted this by assigning Army officers to devote at least one afternoon a week to organizing group athletics and by assigning civil officers to give lectures and demonstrations on such subjects as bridge building. The Kachin Government is also pushing non-Communist groups such as the Boy Scouts.

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1. Comment. If NAM SENG is sent into Burma with indigenous troops, the majority will be Burma Communist Party (BCP) men who were trained in China.

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